

## FY13 Executive Summary

# HAWAI'I INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

PROVIDING STATE POLICY DIRECTION, COORDINATION, AND PLANNING TO PROTECT  
HAWAI'I FROM THE IMPACTS OF INVASIVE SPECIES.



JESSE SOUKI  
DBEDT



DR. MARIA GALLO  
UH



RUSSELL KOKUBUN  
DOA



WILLIAM AILA  
DLNR



DAVID RODRIGUEZ  
DOT



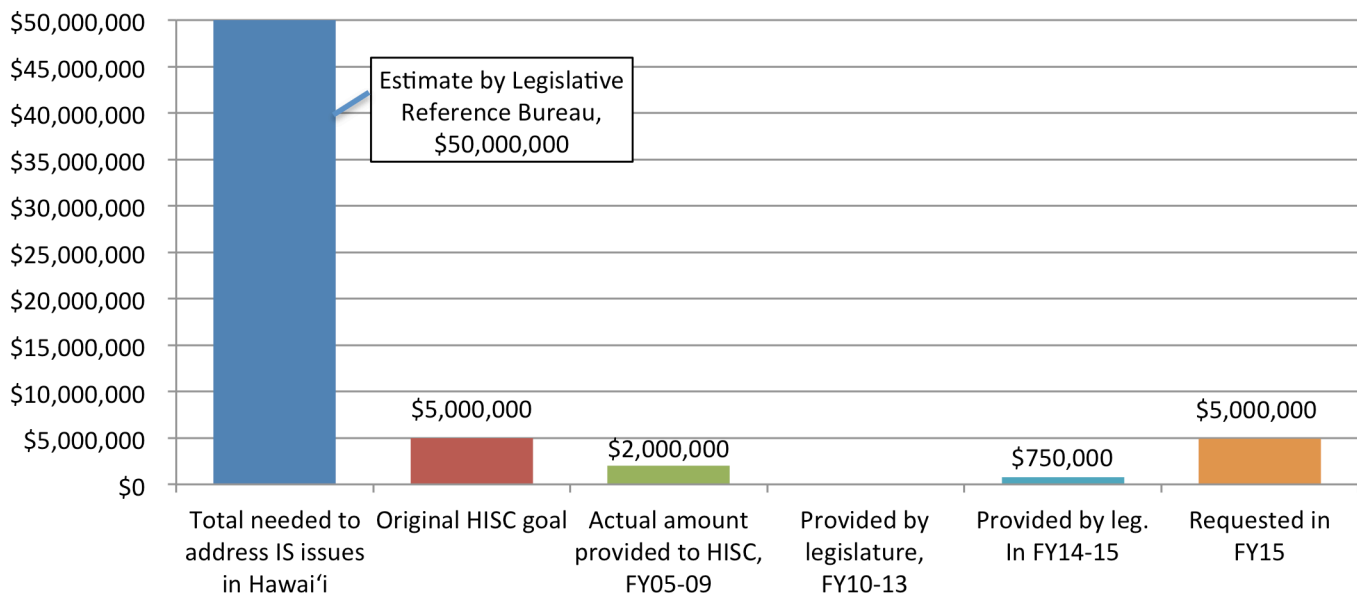
GARY GILL  
DOH

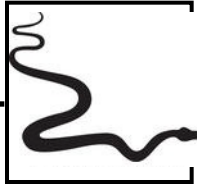
## Budgetary Issues

### Invasive Species Funding Needs

- A Legislative Reference Bureau study in FY03 estimated the funding needed to protect Hawai'i from invasive species at **\$50,000,000** annually.
- The original concept for the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council (HISC) in FY04 was **\$5,000,000 annually**. However, the legislature provided **\$2,000,000** in general funds annually from FY05-09, and **\$0** in general funds thereafter.
- Due to chronic underfunding, the DLNR has supplemented these general funds with special funds from the Natural Area Reserve Fund in recognition of the importance of protecting Hawai'i's environment and economy.
- In 2013 the legislature denied a bill that would have added the HISC as a designated beneficiary of special funds from the Natural Area Reserve Fund and appropriated **\$750,000** in general funds for FY14-15.
- Due to the inability to obtain dedicated special funding and severely limited general funds, **the DLNR (as administrative host of the interagency HISC) is requesting a supplemental \$5,000,000 in general funds in FY15.** This is the minimum amount estimated to maintain current project capacity and avoid losing hard-won progress in invasive species prevention, control, outreach, and research.

### Actual need vs provided funds, 2002-present





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## COUNCIL ACTIONS IN FY13

### The HISC met three times in FY13 to:

- Approve a \$1.8M budget to support invasive species prevention, control, & outreach projects
- Identify policy goals relating to invasive species for the 2013 Legislative Session
- Adopt three new resolutions regarding federal invasive species issues and their impacts on Hawai'i, including reauthorization of the federal Brown Tree Snake Control and Eradication Act of 2004, updates to the Lacey Act including species of constrictor snake previously detected in Hawai'i, and the expedited removal of federal preemption in inspections of foreign and interstate commerce, which prevent Hawai'i from inspecting for state-specific threats.

### Council Achievements

- The Council hosted the first Hawai'i Invasive Species Awareness Week in March of 2013, which included a proclamation by Governor Abercrombie, recognition of community heroes, and volunteer events across the state.
- Met with U.S. Congressional delegates to discuss state, federal, & regional issues relating to invasive species
- Advised the Governor and the legislature through testimonies and resolutions

## HISC FUNDED PROJECTS IN FY13

### Prevention Working Group

- Response to Japanese Tsunami Marine Debris and inspection for aquatic invasive species
- Established a ballast water & hull fouling program to monitor invasive species arriving in marine vessels
- Provided the only quantitative weed risk assessment tool in Hawai'i

### Response & Control Working Group

- Substantial progress on the removal of Little Fire Ants from the north shore of Kauai
- A total of four axis deer now removed from Hawai'i Island
- New coordinator for the management of axis deer on Maui Island
- Response and research on Little Fire Ants from Hawai'i Ant Lab, based in Hilo
- Detection and control of incipient weeds and other pests by the Invasive Species Committees
- Evaluation of biocontrol agents for miconia, clidemia, and Christmas berry

### Public Outreach Working Group

- Provided community outreach & education in all counties to raise awareness & engage the public
- Produced & aired public service announcements about little fire ant
- Reached & educated thousands of people at county fairs
- Organized volunteer trips to remove invasive species

*The HISC is a cabinet-level, interdepartmental collaborative created by Chapter 194, HRS, comprised of the directors, chairpersons, or designees of DLNR, HDOA, DOH, DOT, DBEDT, and UH. For more information, visit the new HISC website at <http://hisc.hawaii.gov>, or contact HISC Support Staff:*

- Joshua Atwood, DLNR Invasive Species Coordinator: [Joshua.P.Atwood@hawaii.gov](mailto:Joshua.P.Atwood@hawaii.gov)
- Emily Montgomery, HISC Planner: [Emily.C.Montgomery@hawaii.gov](mailto:Emily.C.Montgomery@hawaii.gov)